

## Earth Materials

### 1-4 The student will demonstrate an understanding of the properties of Earth materials. (Earth Science)

#### 1-4.1 Recognize the composition of Earth (including rocks, sand, soil, and water).

**Taxonomy level:** 1.1-A Remember Factual Knowledge

**Previous/Future knowledge:** This is a foundational concept that students will develop further in future grades. In 3<sup>rd</sup> grade (3-3.1), students will classify rocks as sedimentary, metamorphic, or igneous and will identify the components of soil.

**It is essential for students to** know that Earth is made of different materials, including rocks, sand, soil, and water. An *Earth material* is defined as a resource that comes from Earth. Types of Earth materials include:

##### *Rocks*

- Rocks are hard, solid, nonliving materials that make up Earth.
- Rocks come in many different shapes, sizes, and colors and can be classified into different groups based on similar characteristics.

##### *Sand*

- Sand is made of tiny pieces of rock.

##### *Soil*

- Soil is the loose, top layer of Earth's surface made up of pieces of rock, sand, water, air, and pieces of dead organisms.
- The type of soil used the most for supporting life is the *topsoil*.
- It is used to grow plants.

##### *Water*

- Water is one of our most valuable resources on Earth.
- Every living thing needs water to survive.
- Water covers most of Earth, but only a small portion of it can be used for drinking.
- It can be salt water or fresh water.

**It is not essential for students to** use the classification terms for rocks at this grade level. Students do not need to identify the layers of soil (soil profile).

#### **Assessment Guidelines:**

The objective of this indicator is to *recognize* the composition of Earth materials; therefore, the primary focus of assessment should be to remember the characteristics about rocks, sand, soil, and water. However, appropriate assessments should also require students to *identify* an Earth material by its characteristics; or *recall* what an Earth material is.